



San Juan Water District is working to reduce customer costs

Read on to see how...

Water Transfer Pilot Program May Offset Needed Infrastructure Costs

On August 13, the San Juan Board of Directors approved the start of discussions for a potential pilot program with the Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD) and San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA). San Juan Water District (SJWD) is exploring options to transfer surface water - otherwise unavailable to customers - during dry years to help pay for new groundwater wells and pumps.

Why is the Water Unavailable to SJWD Customers?

As a signatory to the Sacramento Water Forum Agreement, SJWD is required to leave some surface water in Folsom Lake during dry years and use supplemental groundwater to meet customer demand. The water required to be left in Folsom Lake eventually flows down the American River where it benefits fishery, wildlife, recreational and aesthetic values.

Once the water serves its environmental benefit, it becomes available for use at the Sacramento River. Currently there is no cost-effective way to pump this water back to the District water treatment plant. Rather than letting the water go without customer benefit, the District is pursuing funds for forgone surface water to help offset infrastructure costs.

Your Questions Answered

Why is SJWD considering water transfers?

- To obtain funds for water otherwise unavailable to SJWD customers.
- To potentially reduce funds collected from customers to pay for infrastructure improvements.
- To support new state policy encouraging cooperation among water providers to meet statewide water demand.

Will there still be enough water for SJWD customers?

- Yes! Due to existing water agreements, your water needs will be met. The water planned for transfer is water that is not available for customer consumption.

Will this pilot program increase customer water bills?

- No. Funds obtained from the potential water transfers will help offset costs needed to build dry-year facilities, like wells and pumps. In fact, the funds from the proposed transfer could lessen the amount paid by SJWD customers.

When will the water transfer take place?

- Participating agencies hope to implement a small-scale, one-year pilot program in March 2009.

Questions or comments about the potential water transfer program?

Contact SJWD General Manager Shauna Lorange at 791-0115 or visit sjwd.org. Always, we value your input and want to keep you informed!

Tips to Winterize Your Home

- ★ Turn off or reset irrigation systems to avoid unnecessary watering.
- ★ Clear leaves from gutters, storm drains and other areas to prevent rainwater overflow.
- ★ Install a rain sensor - a tool that measures rainfall and prevents overwatering - on your irrigation system.
- ★ Wrap hot water heaters with a fireproof blanket to reduce energy used to keep water warm.
- ★ Wrap exposed pipes with insulation to prevent heat loss and reduce chances of freezing and/or bursting.
- ★ Locate and learn how to use your water shut-off valve in case a pipe bursts.



This tree was planted too close to the service line.

Keep Service Lines Root Free

Please keep your service box area clear of trees and large shrubs. Plant roots can wrap around your service line, causing costly damage and inconvenient water outages.

- Place new trees and large shrubs at least 10 feet away from all service boxes and pipelines.
- Replant existing trees and large shrubs that are too close to your service box.

If you have questions about plants near your service box area, please contact us at 791-0115.